



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 1201

LCO No. 3328

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING EDUCATORS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (m) of section 10-145b of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (m) The State Board of Education may revoke any certificate issued
4 pursuant to sections 10-144a to 10-149, inclusive, for any of the
5 following reasons: (1) The holder of the certificate obtained such
6 certificate through fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact; (2) the
7 holder has persistently neglected to perform the duties for which
8 certification was granted; (3) the holder is professionally unfit to
9 perform the duties for which certification was granted; (4) the holder is
10 convicted in a court of law of a crime involving moral turpitude or of
11 any other crime of such nature that in the opinion of the board
12 continued certification would impair the standing of certificates issued
13 by the board; or (5) other due and sufficient cause. The State Board of
14 Education shall revoke any certificate issued pursuant to said sections
15 if the holder is found to have intentionally disclosed specific questions
16 or answers to students or otherwise improperly breached the security
17 of any administration of a state-wide examination pursuant to section

18 10-14n. In any revocation proceeding pursuant to this section, the State
19 Board of Education shall have the burden of establishing the reason for
20 such revocation by a preponderance of the evidence. Revocation shall
21 be in accordance with procedures established by the State Board of
22 Education pursuant to chapter 54. When the Commissioner of
23 Education is notified, pursuant to section 17a-101i, that a person
24 holding a certificate, permit or authorization issued by the State Board
25 of Education under the provisions of sections 10-144o to 10-149,
26 inclusive, has been convicted of a crime involving an act of child abuse
27 or a violation of section 53a-71 or section 53a-73a, any certificate,
28 permit or authorization issued by the State Board of Education and
29 held by such person shall be deemed revoked and the commissioner
30 shall notify such person of such revocation, provided such person may
31 request reconsideration pursuant to regulations adopted by the State
32 Board of Education, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.
33 The State Board of Education may deny an application for certification
34 for any of the following reasons: (A) The applicant seeks to obtain a
35 certificate through fraud or misrepresentation of a material fact; (B) the
36 applicant has been convicted in a court of law of a crime involving
37 moral turpitude or of any other crime of such nature that in the
38 opinion of the board issuance of a certificate would impair the
39 standing of certificates issued by the board; or (C) other due and
40 sufficient cause. Any applicant denied a certificate shall be notified in
41 writing of the reasons for denial. Any applicant denied a certificate
42 may request a review of such denial by the State Board of Education.

43 Sec. 2. Section 10-145d of the general statutes is repealed and the
44 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

45 (a) The State Board of Education shall, pursuant to chapter 54, adopt
46 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
47 sections 10-144o, 10-145a to 10-145d, inclusive, 10-145f and 10-146b.
48 Such regulations shall provide for (1) the establishment of an appeal
49 panel to review any decision to deny the issuance of a certificate
50 authorized under said section 10-145b; (2) the establishment of

51 requirements for subject area endorsements; (3) the extension of the
52 time to complete requirements for certificates under said section 10-
53 145b; (4) the establishment of requirements for administrator and
54 supervisor certificates; (5) the composition of, and the procedures to be
55 utilized by, the assessment teams in implementing the beginning
56 educator program; (6) procedures and criteria for issuing certificates to
57 persons whose certificates have lapsed or persons with non-public-
58 school or out-of-state teaching experience; (7) the criteria for defining a
59 major course of study; (8) a requirement that on and after July 1, 1993,
60 in order to be eligible to obtain an initial educator certificate with an
61 elementary endorsement, each person be required to complete a
62 survey course in United States history comprised of not fewer than
63 three semester hours; and (9) a requirement that on and after July 1,
64 2003, in order to be eligible to obtain an initial educator certificate with
65 an early childhood nursery through grade three or an elementary
66 endorsement, each person be required to complete a comprehensive
67 reading instruction course comprised of not less than six semester
68 hours. Such regulations may provide for exceptions to accommodate
69 specific certification endorsement areas.

70 (b) The State Board of Education shall, pursuant to chapter 54, adopt
71 regulations to provide standards for the certification of school business
72 administrators. Such regulations shall make provision for certification
73 requirements to be met by either (1) completion of prescribed courses
74 of study, or (2) such other experience as the state board shall deem
75 appropriate for the position of school business administrator. Any
76 person serving in the position of school business administrator on July
77 1, 1983, shall be considered as having met all requirements for
78 certification. The regulations shall also contain standards to certify
79 individuals who hold certification from a state other than Connecticut.

80 (c) Any individual certified as a school business administrator after
81 July 1, 1983, pursuant to regulations adopted by the State Board of
82 Education in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this
83 section shall not be deemed to be eligible for membership in the

84 teachers' retirement system solely by reason of such certification,
85 provided any such individual who holds a regular teacher's certificate
86 issued by the State Board of Education shall not be excluded from
87 membership in said system.

88 (d) Any individual certified as a school business administrator
89 pursuant to regulations adopted by the state board in accordance with
90 the provisions of subsection (b) of this section, shall not be deemed to
91 be included in the definition of "teacher" in subdivision (2) of
92 subsection (a) of section 10-151 solely by reason of such certification,
93 provided any such individual who holds a regular teacher's certificate
94 issued by the State Board of Education and is employed as a teacher,
95 principal, supervisor or school superintendent shall not be excluded
96 from such definition.

97 [(e) The State Board of Education shall adopt regulations, in
98 accordance with chapter 54, to provide standards for the certification
99 of computer science teachers. Such regulations shall make provision
100 for certification requirements to be met by either (1) completion of
101 prescribed courses of study, or (2) such other experience as the state
102 board shall deem appropriate.]

103 Sec. 3. Section 8-265pp of the general statutes is repealed and the
104 following is substituted in lieu thereof:

105 The Connecticut Housing Finance Authority shall develop and
106 administer a program of mortgage assistance to certified teachers (1)
107 employed by priority school districts pursuant to section 10-266p, (2)
108 employed by transitional school districts pursuant to section 10-263c,
109 (3) employed by regional vocational-technical schools located in such
110 priority or transitional school districts, or [(3)] (4) who teach in a
111 subject matter shortage area pursuant to section 10-8b. Such assistance
112 shall be available to eligible teachers for the purchase of a house as
113 their principal residence, provided, in the case of a teacher employed
114 by a priority or a transitional school district, or by a regional
115 vocational-technical school located in a priority or transitional school

116 district, the house is located in such district. In making mortgage
117 assistance available under the program, the authority shall utilize
118 downpayment assistance or any other appropriate housing subsidies.
119 The terms of any mortgage assistance shall allow the mortgagee to
120 realize a reasonable portion of the equity gain upon sale of the
121 mortgaged property.

122 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide for the automatic revocation of a permit or authorization issued by the State Board of Education. To repeal the requirement that the State Board adopt regulations to provide standards for the certification of computer science teachers. To make teachers employed in vocational-technical schools in priority or transitional school districts, who purchase a house as a principal residence in such districts, eligible for the program providing mortgage assistance to certain teachers.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]